

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A method of modifying a valve in a patient's heart to reduce regurgitation, the valve having an annulus, the method comprising:

advancing a catheter comprising an interventional tool having an anchor deployment mechanism through the patient's vasculature into the heart from a femoral venous location, the ~~catheter~~ anchor deployment mechanism carrying a plurality of deformable anchors;

~~placing the anchors directly on~~ deploying the plurality of anchors from the anchor deployment mechanism onto the annulus such that each of the deployed anchors penetrates a portion of the tissue of the annulus rather than on leaflets connected to the annulus;

threading coupling a single filament through to each of the deployed anchors such that the filament does not penetrate the tissue of the annulus; and

tightening the filament so as to modify the annulus to reduce regurgitation in the valve.

44. – 50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the anchors comprise sutures.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the anchors comprise staples.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein advancing the catheter comprises extending the catheter across an inter-atrial septum of the heart.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the valve is a mitral valve, and wherein tightening the filament modifies the annulus to reduce regurgitation in the mitral valve.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising positioning a guide catheter through the patient's vasculature into the heart from the femoral venous location, and wherein advancing the catheter comprises advancing the catheter through the guide catheter.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein tightening the filament comprises tightening the annulus.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein tightening the filament comprises shortening the annulus.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein tightening the filament comprises circumferentially shortening the annulus.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein tightening the filament comprises circumferentially tightening the filament by drawing at least some of the anchors together.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein tightening the filament comprises circumferentially tightening the filament by plicating portions of the annulus.

62.-66. (Cancelled)